

Community Planning Committee Description Guidance Statement

Existing Community Planning Committee Description

“The Community Planning Committee shall consist of five residents of Arden, elected by a majority of those voting at the regular March meeting. The term shall be two years, three members elected on the odd numbered years and two on even numbered years.

“It shall be the duty of the Community Planning Committee to plan the physical and cultural future of the Community and to advise the Town Assembly and Trustees on all matters relating to the betterment and development of Arden.”¹

“Long Range Planning is the responsibility of the Committee with the advice of the Trustees and the Advisory Committee.”²

Draft

Community Planning Committee Guidance Statement

The role of the Community Planning Committee (CPC) is to assist the Town Assembly, Town Committees and Trustees to develop and implement plans that preserve and improve the Village of Arden. These plans should support current and future community-defined goals of the physical, cultural and social development activity of the Village of Arden.

To implement this the CPC will:

1. Develop and review short-term and long-range plans based on community-defined goals. The Committee assists the Town and

Assembly to develop goals by communicating with other Town committees, Trustees, surveys of residents to identify preferences and, if appropriate, referenda. Community-defined goals and long-range plans should be surveyed and reviewed at 10-year intervals at minimum.

2. The following long-range plans should be developed and maintained for the Village by the CPC. Each plan will be created in conjunction with the appropriate Town committee(s) if any:

a. a community-wide environmental stewardship plan including forests, greens, leaseholds, and storm water management with input from Ardentown and Ardencroft.

b. a zoning, land use, and development strategy that takes into account New Castle County and State regulations as well as Arden community character.

For example, this could include considerations of population, housing growth/density, potential expansion of boundaries, development or annexation of existing or adjacent areas, redevelopment, abandoned housing policies, parking policies, and common grounds.

c. a cultural health of the community plan that strategizes how to nourish and develop the arts, culture and understanding of the history of Arden.

d. a periodic review of our systems of governance, facilitation of participation in our direct democracy form of

government and efforts to foster volunteers throughout the community.

3. Each year the newly elected members of CPC should review existing and develop new specific tasks for the committee that are in alignment with and further the goals and plans that are described in the CPC description and this document.

Tasks should include:

- a. monitoring of local, State and federal trends, policies and legislation to take advantage of or anticipate the impact upon the Town or residents.
- b. creating or developing short-, medium-, and long-term plans as per above.
- c. continuing oversight of the Arden Memorial Gardens, the G-Ardeners community garden at the Buzz Ware Village Center, and Vacant Dwelling Ordinance 15 implementation.
- d. other tasks as approved by the committee or assigned by the Town Assembly.

4. Proposed projects developed within CPC will be approved, returned for further drafting/research, or rejected by the Town Assembly. If a project is approved, the Town Assembly or Advisory Committee will assign the project to the applicable committee(s) for implementation with the assistance of CPC, if needed.

Footnotes

1. Minutes of the January 1968 Town Meeting establishing the Community Planning Committee
2. Page 5, "Village of Arden Handbook" -- Red Book, July 29, 1996 edition.